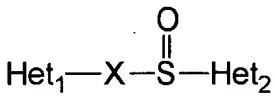
IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claims 1, 3, 5-7, 10, 11, 18 and 19 as follows:

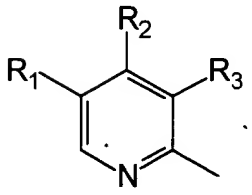
1. (Twice amended) An administration regimen for improved inhibition of gastric acid secretion [characterized by an extended blood plasma profile of an H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor,] comprising the oral administration of a pharmaceutical formulation comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an [the] H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor, wherein the administration regimen induces an extended blood plasma profile of the H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor [having the formula I



I

wherein

Het_1 is



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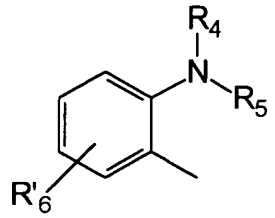
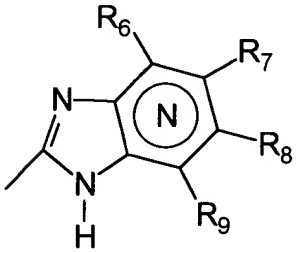


Het_2 is



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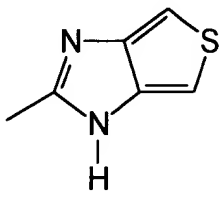

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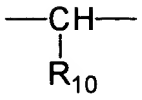
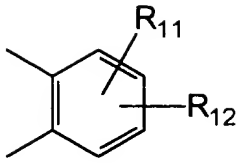


or



wherein

N in the benzimidazole moiety means that one of the ring carbon atoms substituted by R_6-R_9 optionally may be exchanged for a nitrogen atom without any substituents;

R_1, R_2 and R_3 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, fluorine-substituted alkoxy, alkylthio, alkoxyalkoxy, dialkylamino, piperidino, morpholino, halogen, phenyl and phenylalkoxy;

R_4 and R_5 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl and aralkyl;

R_6' is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, alkyl and alkoxy;

R_6-R_9 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, halogen, halo-alkoxy, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, oxazolyl, trifluoroalkyl, or adjacent groups R_6-R_9 form ring structures which may be further substituted;

R_{10} is hydrogen or forms an alkylene chain together with R_3; and

R_{11} and R_{12} are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen or alkyl].

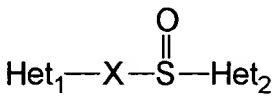
In claim 3, delete "or 2".

B2

5. (Twice amended) The administration regimen according to claim 1, wherein the extended plasma profile is obtained by oral administration of the pharmaceutical formulation which releases the H^+,K^+-ATPase inhibitor for absorption with an almost constant rate during an extended time period and the extended plasma profile is maintained for 2-12 hours.

6. (Twice amended) The administration regimen according to any of claims 1-4 [1-5], wherein the extended plasma profile is maintained for 2-12 hours.

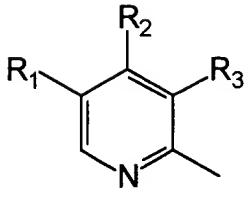
7. (Twice amended) An oral pharmaceutical formulation comprising an H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the formulation induces an extended blood plasma profile of the H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor [and the H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor is a compound of the formula I



I

wherein

Het_1 is



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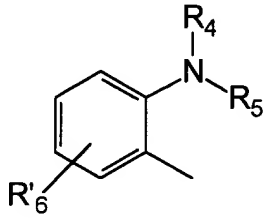

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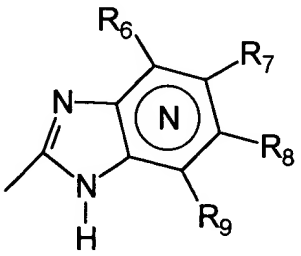

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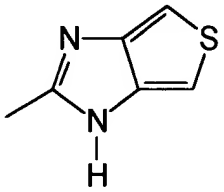

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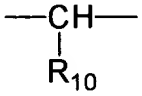

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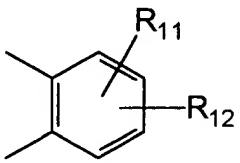


wherein

N in the benzimidazole moiety means that one of the ring carbon atoms substituted by R_6-R_9 optionally may be exchanged for a nitrogen atom without any substituents;

R_1, R_2 and R_3 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, fluorine-substituted alkoxy, alkylthio, alkoxyalkoxy, dialkylamino, piperidino, morpholino, halogen, phenyl and phenylalkoxy;

R_4 and R_5 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl and aralkyl;

R_6' is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, alkyl and alkoxy;

R_6-R_9 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, halogen, halo-alkoxy, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, oxazolyl, trifluoroalkyl, or adjacent groups R_6-R_9 form ring structures which may be further substituted;

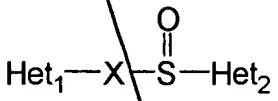
R_{10} is hydrogen or forms an alkylene chain together with R_3; and

R_{11} and R_{12} are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen or alkyl].

10. (Twice amended) The oral pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 7, wherein the pharmaceutical formulation releases the H^+,K^+-ATPase inhibitor for absorption with an almost constant rate during an extended time period and the extended plasma profile is maintained for 2-12 hours.

11. (Twice amended) The oral pharmaceutical formulation according to any of claims 7-9 [7-10], wherein the extended plasma profile is maintained for 2-12 hours.

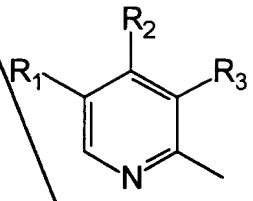
18. (Amended) An administration regimen for improved inhibition of gastric acid secretion [characterized by an extended blood plasma profile of an H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor,] comprising the oral administration of a pharmaceutical formulation comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an [the] H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor, wherein the administration regimen induces an extended blood plasma profile of the H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor, [having the formula I



I

wherein

Het_1 is



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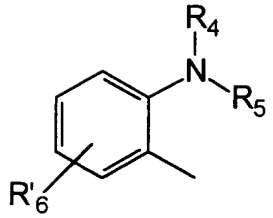
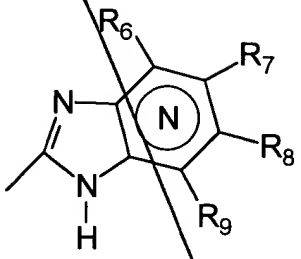


Het_2 is



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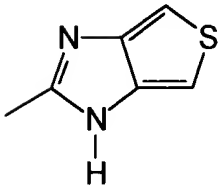

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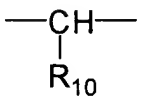

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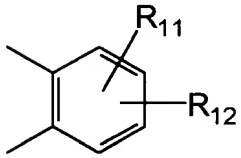


wherein

N in the benzimidazole moiety means that one of the ring carbon atoms substituted by R_6-R_9 optionally may be exchanged for a nitrogen atom without any substituents;

R_1, R_2 and R_3 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, fluorine-substituted alkoxy, alkylthio, alkoxyalkoxy, dialkylamino, piperidino, morpholino, halogen, phenyl and phenylalkoxy;

R_4 and R_5 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl and aralkyl;

$R_{6'}$ is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, alkyl and alkoxy;

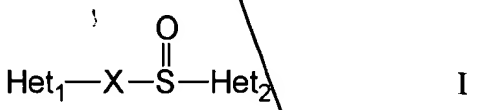
R_6-R_9 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, halogen, halo-alkoxy, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, oxazolyl, trifluoroalkyl, or adjacent groups R_6-R_9 form ring structures which may be further substituted;

R_{10} is hydrogen or forms an alkylene chain together with R_3; and

R_{11} and R_{12} are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen or alkyl,]

with the proviso that the H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor is not pantoprazole.

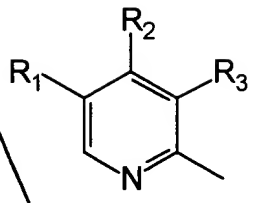
19. (Amended) An oral pharmaceutical formulation comprising an H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the formulation induces an extended blood plasma profile of the H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor [and the H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor is a compound of the formula I



I

wherein

Het_1 is



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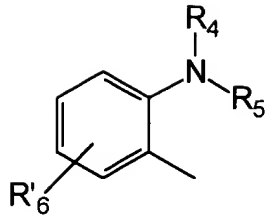
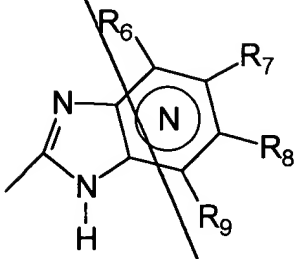


Het_2 is



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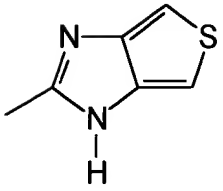

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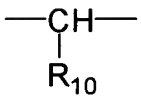

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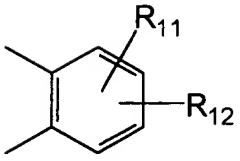


wherein

N in the benzimidazole moiety means that one of the ring carbon atoms substituted by R_6-R_9 optionally may be exchanged for a nitrogen atom without any substituents;

R_1, R_2 and R_3 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, fluorine-substituted alkoxy, alkylthio, alkoxyalkoxy, dialkylamino, piperidino, morpholino, halogen, phenyl and phenylalkoxy;

R_4 and R_5 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl and aralkyl;

R_6' is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, alkyl and alkoxy;

R_6-R_9 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, halogen, halo-alkoxy, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, oxazolyl, trifluoroalkyl, or adjacent groups R_6-R_9 form ring structures which may be further substituted;

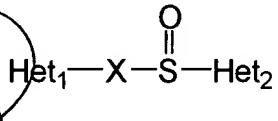
R_{10} is hydrogen or forms an alkylene chain together with R_3; and

R_{11} and R_{12} are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen or alkyl],

with the proviso that the H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor is not pantoprazole.

Add new claims 20-22.

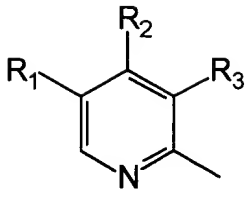
20. The administration regimen according to claim 1 or 18, wherein the H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor is a compound of the formula I



I

wherein

Het_1 is



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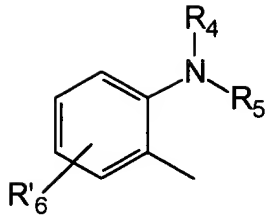
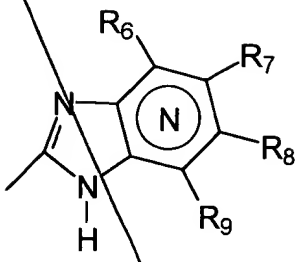


Het_2 is



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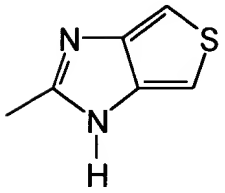

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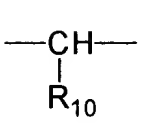

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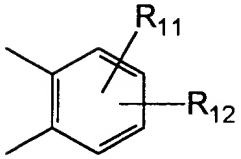


wherein

N in the benzimidazole moiety means that one of the ring carbon atoms substituted by R_6-R_9 optionally may be exchanged for a nitrogen atom without any substituents;

R_1, R_2 and R_3 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, fluorine-substituted alkoxy, alkylthio, alkoxyalkoxy, dialkylamino, piperidino, morpholino, halogen, phenyl and phenylalkoxy;

R_4 and R_5 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl and aralkyl;

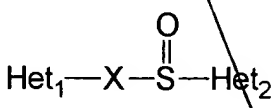
R_6' is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, alkyl and alkoxy;

R_6-R_9 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, halogen, halo-alkoxy, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, oxazolyl, trifluoroalkyl, or adjacent groups R_6-R_9 form ring structures which may be further substituted;

R_{10} is hydrogen or forms an alkylene chain together with R_3; and

R_{11} and R_{12} are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen or alkyl.

21. The oral pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 7 ~~or 19~~, wherein the H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor is a compound of the formula I

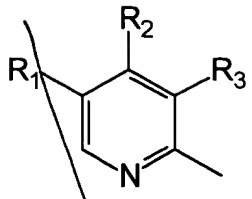


I

wherein

Het_1 is

Het$_2$ is



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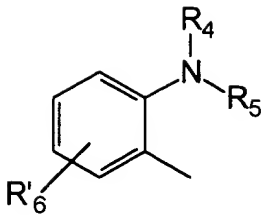

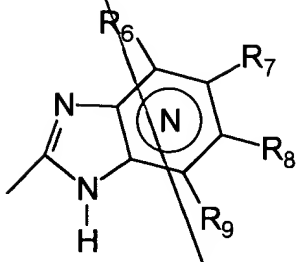

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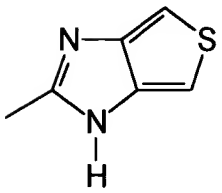

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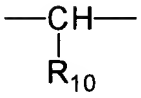

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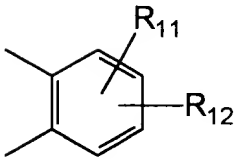


wherein

N in the benzimidazole moiety means that one of the ring carbon atoms substituted by R_6-R_9 optionally may be exchanged for a nitrogen atom without any substituents;

R_1, R_2 and R_3 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, fluorine-substituted alkoxy, alkylthio, alkoxyalkoxy, dialkylamino, piperidino, morpholino, halogen, phenyl and phenylalkoxy;

R_4 and R_5 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl and aralkyl;

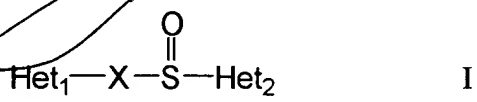
$R_{6'}$ is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, alkyl and alkoxy;

R_6-R_9 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, halogen, halo-alkoxy, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, oxazolyl, trifluoroalkyl, or adjacent groups R_6-R_9 form ring structures which may be further substituted;

R_{10} is hydrogen or forms an alkylene chain together with R_3; and

R_{11} and R_{12} are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen or alkyl.

22. The method according to claim 15 or 16, wherein the H^+, K^+-ATPase inhibitor is a compound of the formula I

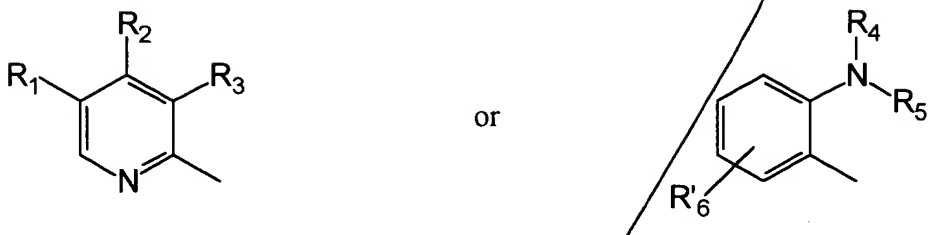


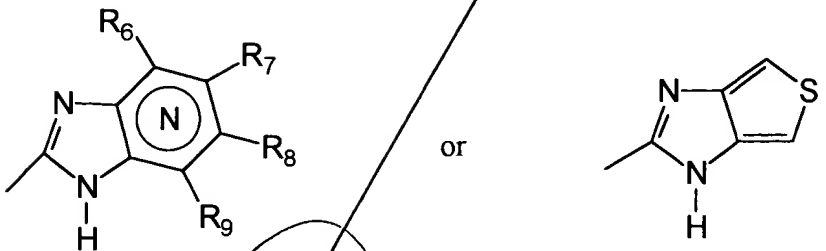
I

wherein

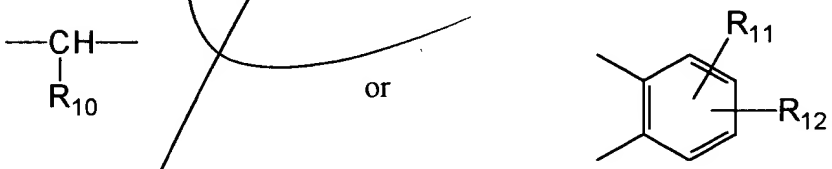
Het_1 is

Het$_2$ is





X =



wherein

N in the benzimidazole moiety means that one of the ring carbon atoms substituted by R_6-R_9 optionally may be exchanged for a nitrogen atom without any substituents;

R_1, R_2 and R_3 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, fluorine-substituted alkoxy, alkylthio, alkoxyalkoxy, dialkylamino, piperidino, morpholino, halogen, phenyl and phenylalkoxy;

R_4 and R_5 are the same or different and selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl and aralkyl;